

Weekly Status & Information Report: July 18 - 22, 2011

1. Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of July 25, 2011:

- City Council meeting, Monday, July 25, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
- Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, Tuesday, July 26, 7:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room
- Takoma Junction Task Force meeting, Thursday, July 28, 7:30 p.m. in the Azalea Room
- Recreation Committee meeting, Wednesday, July 27, at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center

All meetings are held in the Community Center and open to the public unless noted otherwise. Contact jessiec@takomagov.org to check for cancellations or for additional information.

(City Clerk)

2. Flower Avenue Green Street Kick-Off Community Meeting: Hold the date for the first community meeting concerning the Flower Avenue Green Street Project: Wednesday, August 3, 2011 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Wilkinson Hall Lobby on the Washington Adventist University Campus. *(Deputy City Manager)*

3. Social Media Continues To Grow: The City of Takoma Park recently received a mention on Twitter from SocialinDC on their lists of the best Twitter accounts to follow in the DC area! Our accounts, based around social events and a two way dialog with residents, have proven to be enormously popular. In the last thirty days, the City had 30,000 views of material put up on Facebook alone and over the life time all social media accounts have gained almost 1,000 followers! The Communications office is also looking into the feasibility of a Google+ account as soon as the company opens the service up to businesses and organizations. Follow the City of Takoma Park at facebook.com/TakomaParkMD & twitter.com/TakomaParkMD.

(Media Specialist)

4. 718 Erie Avenue Garage (Ward 5): Department of Permitting Services for Montgomery County allowed a building owner to complete construction on the roof despite not having filed for any required permits. A stop work order and a notice of violation was placed on the project. The property owner, who has a history of not filing for permits, is required to obtain a variance, a public process that includes a public hearing, as there are setback violations. DPS also extended the compliance time by 90 days. The property owner has not yet filed for a variance. The City is questioning whether or not the project exceeds 1000 square feet, the trigger for site plan, which has an additional public process (the permit application filed by the applicant post construction was for 768 sq ft). *(Housing and Community Development)*

5. FREE EVENTS! (Donations are Welcome) We Are Takoma! (City-wide): Looking for something cool to do (in a "cool" place to boot)? Check out these options . . . "We are Takoma" returns with the world premier performance of "A Natural History of My Husband's Cars." From the '61 Mercury Station Wagon to the '72 Oldsmobile to the '90 Plymouth Laser, take a ride through one man's automotive life and times. A multi-media performance not to be missed. <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/event.php?eid=233100133387037>. Performance will be held at the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD:

"A Natural History of My Husband's Cars: The Story of One Man's Automotive Life and Times," Friday, July 29, 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Even as a young boy in Northern Virginia, Jim Landry always wanted to drive. Fascinated by cars, he began driving himself to piano lessons at age 12 in his mother's '61 Mercury station wagon. Join playwright Nicole Burton and her husband, photographer and musician Jim Landry for 75 minutes of stories, photographs, and original music.

"Music Makes a Difference" Concert, Saturday, July 30, 7:00 p.m. A night full of Irish, Scottish, Quebequois and American Folk music! A free event but donations welcome and will be used for research on skin cancer treatment and prevention.

For more information on these and other cultural events, please check us out on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD#!/TakomaParkMD?sk=events>.

(Housing and Community Development)

6. Grant for Streetscape Standards Awarded! (Wards 2, 3 & 6): The Transportation Planning Board announced the award of a technical assistance grant to the City of Takoma Park

through the Transportation Land Use Connection program. The grant will provide design assistance to produce streetscape standards for a multi-way boulevard on New Hampshire Avenue so that as properties redevelop they will be able to incorporate consistent sidewalks, lighting, landscaping and stormwater biofiltration design throughout the corridor. The City will be responsible for coordinating community outreach and cross jurisdictional input. *(Housing and Community Development)*

7. Takoma Langley Sector Plan Update (Ward 6): The Montgomery County Council Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee has made all the changes to the Sector Plan that they are intending to and are sending it on to the full Council. Outstanding items that will be seen for the first time at the Council level (as opposed to the Committee level) and will be considered technical changes include an updated proposed zoning map which includes height changes and potentially design recommendations. *(Housing and Community Development)*

8. CR Zones Update (Ward 6 & 2): The Montgomery County Council Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee has voted to significantly reduce the list of incentive community benefits that a property owner must provide to qualify for a full allowance of floor space. The remaining list has very limited application (and are not very desirable) when applied to smaller properties. These properties often are developed with far fewer resources and lower profit margins. The City is advocating that sites under one acre be exempted from providing these benefits as they will still have to comply with Master Plan recommendations and design guidelines. *(Housing and Community Development)*

9. Seniors Go Duck Pin Bowling: The second mini trip this summer took seniors to White Oak Bowling Center in Silver Spring, Maryland, on Wednesday, July 20. The game of "Duck Pin Bowling" let some seniors remember the good old days of their youth, while others tried bowling for the first time in their lives. Everyone had a great time, and they want to go bowling again. *(Recreation)*

10. Zumba has a Successful Start!! On Wednesday, July, 20, Zumba made an impressive start at the Takoma Park Recreation Center. Led by new instructor, Kim Clark, the class had 13 participants. All had an exciting time and really enjoyed themselves. We look forward to more people being hooked and joining the Zumba craze. *(Recreation)*

11. Week 4 @ Camp Recess is Another Success!! The fourth week of Camp Recess was another exciting and enjoyable session, sold-out for the fourth straight week. Campers got some relief from the heat at the Long Branch Pool and also participated in a team-building arts and crafts project. Dave Burbank of the Takoma Park Library came back with another great interactive Comic Jam presentation. A special thank go out to the Takoma Park Lions Club for generously sponsoring the end of the week cookout. Takoma Park Recreation staff member/ chef Jim Baxter is a master on the grill, while storytelling with the kids. *(Recreation)*

12. Intervention Meeting: On Wednesday, July 20, a meeting took place at the Takoma Park Community Center to discuss the concerns of reported gang activity in the Takoma Park/Silver Spring community. The group began a dialogue that is intended to explore possible youth development partnerships among the agencies present. Participants in the meeting were: Recreation Director Debra Haiduven, Recreation Deputy Director Gregory Clark, Police Chief Ron Ricucci and Recreation Supervisor John Webster; Richard Brown & Luis Cardona (Street Outreach Network); Jose Segura (Crossroads Youth Opportunity Center) & Ludley Howard (Founder/CEO of Pride Youth Services.) *(Recreation)*

13. Tiny Tykes Basketball Skills – Location Change for Saturday: In anticipation of record temperatures on Saturday, the Tiny Tykes Basketball Skills class will be held indoors at the Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Avenue, Takoma Park.) Class will still run from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. For additional information, please contact Lew McAllister at LewM@takomagov.org or (301) 891-7284. *(Recreation)*

14. Super Sports Camp – Tons of Fun!!: This past week nine campers' ages 6-9 participated in the Super Sports Camp. Campers had a great time while engaging in sports such as: floor hockey, basketball, flag football, kickball, soccer and T-ball. The "cool kids" as they were affectionately named also participated in trips to swimming and "pump it up". The Recreation Department would like to thank all the participants for enrolling. *(Recreation)*

15. T-Ball – No Games this Weekend!! All games scheduled for this Saturday, July 23, have been canceled due to extreme hot weather conditions. Games will resume on Saturday, July 30. For additional information, please contact Lew McAllister at LewM@takomagov.org or (301) 891-7284. *(Recreation)*

16. National Night Out: Don't forget about the police department's annual National Night Out event on Tuesday, August 2, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Piney Branch Elementary School (7510 Maple Avenue)! Please visit <http://takomaparkpoliceenno.weebly.com/> for complete details and check back regularly for any new information under the "Event Updates" tab. *(Police)*

17. Funding for the Police: The City is seeking funding from the U.S. Department of Justice under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) program, as allocated in the Federal FY2011 cycle. Proposed use of the funds will be for continuation for 24 weeks of the part time Research and Policy Development position within the Takoma Park Police Department. The position researches new procedures, equipment, tactics and cutting edge issues. The employee reviews existing policy and revises them as needed, as well as develops new policy and procedures for emerging issues affecting the agency. Funding amount sought in this grant program is \$11,159. A public comment period of 30 days is being provided prior to any obligations of payment under this program. Comments should be forwarded to: Capt. Edward E. Coursey, Takoma Park Police Department, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912, edwardc@takomagov.org, or 301-891-7105. *(Police)*

18. Crime Report: The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (July 8-21, 2011) may be viewed online at:
http://tppolice.blogspot.com/2011/07/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_22.html. *(Police)*

19. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 204 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, seven vehicle impounds, and 10 arrests from traffic stops.

During July 11-21, 2011, the following details were completed:

July 11, 2011

- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) – conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations.

July 13, 2011

- 1000 block of East-West Highway (speeding) - conducted a two and a half hour detail and issued eight State citations for speed and three other State citations.

July 14, 2011

- 1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a three hour detail and issued eight State citations for speed and eight other State citations.
- Flower Avenue at Division Street (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five warnings.

July 18, 2011

- Prince George's Avenue & Belford Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one warning.
- 8000 block of Carroll Avenue (tag reader-suspensions) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- 8400 block of Flower Avenue (tag reader-suspensions) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued eight State citations and one warning.
- 1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations for speed and one other State citation.
- 7500 block of Maple Avenue (speeding) - conducted a two hour detail and issued seven State citations for speed, six other State citations and one warning.

July 19, 2011

- Park Avenue at Spruce Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued

one State citation.

- Jackson Avenue & Glenside Drive (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and two warnings.

July 20, 2011

- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.
- Park Avenue at Spruce Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- Park Avenue & Spruce Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued two State citations.
- Park Avenue & Spruce Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two warnings.
- Flower Avenue & Piney Branch Road (failure to stay right of center) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and three warnings.

July 21, 2011

- Prince George's Avenue & Belford Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued one warning.
 - Park Avenue & Spruce Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one warning.
- (Police)

20. Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes) Week 7/17/11 – 7/23/11:

Hours worked: 41.5

Calls for service: 7

State Citations issued: 79

Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SEROs) issued: 5

City tickets: 4

Reports: 11

Warrant arrests: 1

Court: 8

On View arrests: 1

(Police)